

From: James Braly
To: Ms. Renata B. Heese
Date: 1/17/02 3:29pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement (Support)

Dear Ms. Heese:

I am writing in total support of the recent settlement of the long-running, envy-driven antitrust lawsuit between the U.S. Department of Justice, state attorneys general and Microsoft Corporation. Though I applaud the nine state attorneys general that decided to follow the federal government's lead and settle the case, I am thoroughly disappointed that remaining state attorneys general and the District of Columbia have decided to further pursue this baseless and harmful case.

The settlement is more than fair to all. It will allow Microsoft's competitors to use Microsoft's Windows operating system to incorporate their software programs and will give consumers like me more services and products to choose from.

As you should be well aware, members of Citizens for a Sound Economy have been unrelenting in our opposition to the federal government's antitrust case against Microsoft. For nearly 3 years, tens of thousands of activists like myself have called, emailed, visited, and sent letters to the U.S. Department of Justice and to state attorneys' general offices explaining that Microsoft's actions did not harm consumers, but provided us with great benefits by lowering the cost, increasing the availability of software products, and opening up an immediate worldwide access to knowledge. We have stressed that Microsoft is a much admired pioneer in the high-technology market and that their products increased our familiarity with the Internet.

Once again, I thank you for your decision to settle this unfortunate lawsuit against a highly successful and innovative company.

Respectfully,

James Braly
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CC:
Citizens for a Sound Economy